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Volume 61 Issue 3



Planning Progress

Notice of Application Workshop

Stark County HOME-ARP

You are invited to join us for a virtual HOME American Rescue Plan (ARP) application workshop on July 23, 2024 at 10:00 AM. Discussion during the workshop will include available funding, eligible activities and HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations.

To access the virtual session on July 23, 2024, enter the information provided through Microsoft Teams:

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 267 252 551 964

Passcode: pPTfuZ

To join by phone:

Dial: 1-872-215-6905

Conference ID: 788 490 928#

Workshop attendees will earn 10 points toward the application total. For questions, please contact Lisa Snyder at Lcsnyder@starkcountyohio.gov.

The County will make reasonable accommodations for sensory-impaired or disabled residents at public meetings. Translation services may be offered upon request and availability. Individuals requiring such accommodations should contact 330-451-7031 or 330-451-7247 five business days prior to the meeting. Ohio Relay can be reached at 800-750-0750 for English or 800-269-0678 for Spanish.



Stark County Land Bank Awarded \$2 Million from Welcome Home Ohio Program

Stark County Land Bank represents one of 17 counties slated to receive a share of \$29.5 million in funding to help improve access to housing for income-eligible Ohioans across the state.

The funding is part of the first round of the Welcome Home Ohio Program, which is investing a total of \$100 million in grants over two years to help land banks purchase, rehabilitate, or build qualifying residential properties for income-eligible Ohioans. An additional \$50 million in nonrefundable tax credits is available to land banks and eligible developers for rehab and new construction projects once a property is sold.

Welcome Home Ohio Program – Round 1

\$29.5 million for 263 homes in 17 counties

– Indicates counties receiving grants



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



JON HUSTED
LT. GOVERNOR OF OHIO



Department of
Development



“The need for safe and affordable housing is a national challenge that requires proactive solutions, meaningful investments, and strong collaboration across all levels of government,” said Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. “This program represents an innovative and forward-thinking approach that addresses the barriers many Ohioans face when trying to buy a home.”

In total, \$29,482,200 in Welcome Home Ohio funding will be awarded to entities in 17 counties to support the creation of 263 owner-occupied, single-family homes. The Welcome Home Ohio Program was created in partnership with the Ohio General Assembly in the biennium budget bill, House Bill 33. The Ohio Department of Development administers the program.

“By investing in affordable housing across Ohio, we are allowing more Ohioans to enhance their quality of life while supporting economic growth in our state,” said Lt. Governor Jon Husted. “We’ve created a program that will attract more businesses, create more jobs, and afford more Ohioans the opportunity to pursue homeownership.”

This grant award will support the Stark County Land Bank, in partnership with Canton For All People, Inc. with the purchase and resale of 10 new construction residential properties in the Greater Shorb Neighborhood of Canton, Ohio.

Canton For All People is a Community Development Corporation formed by Crossroads United Methodist Church in partnership with the Lemmon and DeHoff family foundations to bring quality housing and opportunities for all people to downtown Canton. Part of their vision for the Greater Shorb Neighborhood is to add affordable housing units to the neighborhood, half of which will be for home ownership.

A Safer Way to Count Traffic

The Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS) has a new, safer and more accurate method of counting cars...and trucks...and people...and cyclists! The Miovision Scout Plus is a portable video-based data collection traffic analysis device.

Transportation planning involves modeling how well traffic moves. Successful modeling is dependent upon knowing where people live, where they work, and where they drive. The “where they drive” part involves counting cars, differentiating between vehicle types, etc., and counting periodically over time. Traffic counting locations are set throughout the county and vehicles are counted (usually every three years). ODOT, SCATS, and others do counts over time within their jurisdictions, with data being entered into a computer model, as well as a database the public can see.

To see Stark County traffic counts, go to:

<https://scats.public.ms2soft.com/tcds/tsearch.asp?loc=Scats&mod>

Counting cars has evolved over time, becoming more sophisticated and accurate. Hose counters are an earlier form of counting that is still in use today. A rubber hose placed across the roadway causes tires to send a “pulse” of air to the counter. Using multiple tubes at locations allows an analysis of which direction vehicles are moving. Using two hoses can identify vehicle types by timing pulses; however, it isn’t the safest job to tape or nail hoses down along busy roads and at intersections!

One of the next evolutions in counting was radar. You can see permanent radar counting units along freeways. SCATS has smaller units we attach to telephone poles. These units can identify small, medium, and large vehicles’ count several lanes of traffic; and collect speed data; however, analyzing traffic at intersections is beyond its ability and resulted in the next generation of traffic counting tools...camera analysis.

The latest traffic counting device uses a camera and artificial intelligence analysis to count vehicles. The new count device SCATS acquired has a camera that mounts on a 20’ tall pole connected to a control unit for recording video. Files are downloaded and then sent to the vendor analysis which can include intersection counts, road volume, roundabout counts, safety studies, speed data, and pedestrian/bicycle counts on trails.

Camera Close-up



Extendable Pole & Control Unit

Community Transportation Planning Studies Applications Due August 2, 2024

A new round of local **Community Transportation Planning Studies** has begun. These studies are for low-cost targeted studies to meet local transportation needs such as reviewing high accident intersections, congested roads or intersections, planning for pedestrian and bicycle improvements, and many other types of transportation related topics.

An informational brochure and application can be found at:
[https://rpc.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/regional_planning_commission/departments/stark_county_area_transportation_study\(scats\)/programs/community_transportation_planning_studies.php](https://rpc.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/regional_planning_commission/departments/stark_county_area_transportation_study(scats)/programs/community_transportation_planning_studies.php)

An example of a recent planning study is the review of the US 62/Harmont Avenue/Lesh Street/Commercial Avenue intersection. This area consistently makes the top 10 list of hazardous intersections in Stark County despite a number of safety improvements over the past 10 years. The proximity of multiple roads and business access driveways, as well as the signalized intersection on US 62, results in a high number of rear-end and angle collisions. The map below shows a crash analysis of this area identifying the type and number of crashes for the past three years.



If you have questions about this type of study opportunity, please call or email Karl Lucas, Senior Planner, at 330-451-7386 or kblucas@starkcountyohio.gov

Stormwater Education Updates

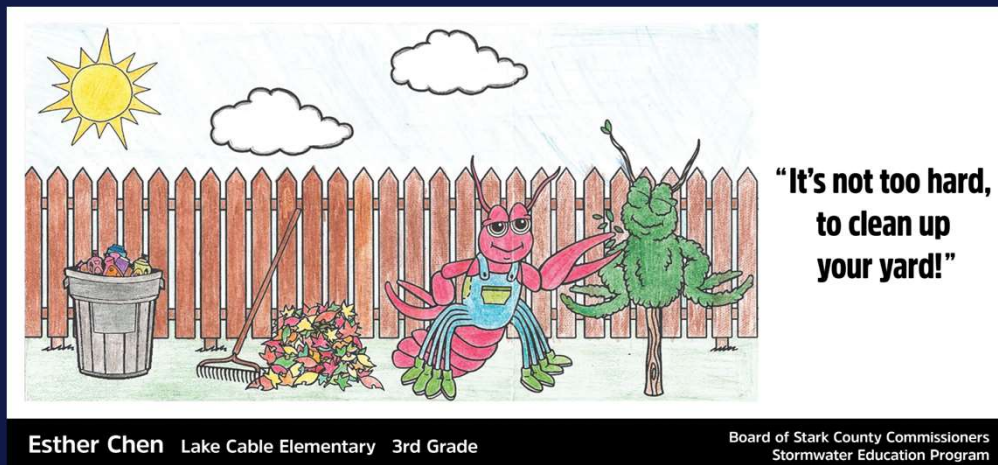
Spring and summer are a busy time for the Stark County Stormwater Education Program. The theme this year is “It’s Not Too Hard to Clean Up Your Yard” and all of the activities we participated in send out the message that there is a lot we can do to help keep our water clean.

The Stark County Home and Garden Show was held April 19th and 20th at the HOF Village. We had a booth at the show, which had approximately 6,500 people attended. A lot of information and giveaways were handed out at the booth.

There will be several radio spots on three different stations throughout the month of July with our mascot, Clawd, encouraging everyone to do their part.



As part of the Stormwater Education Program, students in grades K-5 had the opportunity to enter a Coloring/Billboard Contest. There were 317 entries from 14 schools and the top four winning entries had their artwork displayed on actual billboards throughout the county for the month of May. The theme of “It’s Not too Hard to Clean Up Your Yard” sends the general message of “Only Rain Down the Drain!”





**"It's not too hard,
to clean up
your yard!"**

Kennedy Winkhart Pfeiffer Intermediate School 5th Grade

Board of Stark County Commissioners
Stormwater Education Program



**"It's not too hard,
to clean up
your yard!"**

Isabella Francis Arts Academy at Summit 5th Grade

Board of Stark County Commissioners
Stormwater Education Program



**"It's not too hard,
to clean up
your yard!"**

Joseph Budinski East Canton Elementary 4th Grade

Board of Stark County Commissioners
Stormwater Education Program

July

8	Subdivision Review	1:30 AM
9	SCRPC	7:00 PM
22	SCATS	1:30 PM

August

5	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
6	SCRPC	7:00 PM
26	SCATS	1:30 PM

September

3	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
3	SCRPC	7:00 PM
23	SCATS	1:30 PM

Visit our website:
www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov

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